THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Government have notified "Freight Subsidy (for far flung areas) Scheme, 2002" effective 1st April 2002. The scheme provides for subsidy on transportation of PDS Kerosene and domestic LPG in far flung areas. The scheme does not cover petrol.

The budgetary provision for the subsidy under the above scheme for 2002-03 and 2003-04 has been Rs. 239.14 crore and Rs. 246 crore respectively.

Rehabilitation scheme to dependants of Kargil martyrs

2957. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have quietly abandoned the scheme of helping widows and dependants of the Kargil martyrs;

(b) if so, whether Government have informed the widows and dependants in this regard;

(c) if so, what was their reaction;

(d) whether any delegation has come and represented the matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (e) No, Sir. The Special Scheme for allotment of retail outlet dealerships/LPG distributorships to widows/next of kin of Defence personnel killed in action in 'Operation Vijay' in Kargil formulated by the Government is still in operation.

Production of crude oil

2958. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a plan has been drawn up to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of crude oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and